

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8, and 14 are amended herein. Thus, claims 1-19 remain pending in this application. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

The Office has rejected claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,466,915 to Suzuki et al. (Suzuki). In particular, the Office asserts that FIG. 1 of Suzuki et al. discloses a monitoring system (100) that monitors the purchase of articles of goods at an electronic terminal or first device (FIGS. 17-23), and that the articles of goods are purchased on-line, so the information corresponds to digital content which was viewed. In addition, the Office asserts that Suzuki discloses that the system also includes a usage data storage system (3) that stores usage data (order reception data), and further includes a usage metrics system (table of FIG. 11) that processes usage data into a table.

However, Suzuki to teach each and every feature of the claimed invention. Specifically, Suzuki fails to teach, disclose, or suggest monitoring “consumption of digital content” and collecting “usage data of the monitored consumption of the digital content at the first device, wherein the usage data includes data associated with one or more usage events indicative of the manner in which the digital content is consumed at the first device,” as recited in independent claims 1, 8, and 14.

Instead, Suzuki discloses a customer history management system for use with online shopping wherein information about a customer’s prior orders for particular goods is maintained in an order reception file 3, and may be displayed to the customer. (Col. 8, lines 11-30). The goods may include such items as clothing (See FIG. 7b). Thus, Suzuki merely tracks online purchases made by a customer and maintains a database of that particular customer’s order history that the customer may later access.

Contrary to the disclosures of Suzuki, the claimed invention relates to systems, methods, and computer-readable mediums wherein consumption of digital content at a first device is monitored, usage data of the monitored consumption of the digital content at the first device is collected, and the collected usage data is processed to provide usage results to a second device. The claimed invention relates to *digital content*, which is distinguishable from physically tangible goods, such as clothing. Digital content may includes, for example,

text files, e-books, video format files, multimedia, pictures, executable code, software, or any combination thereof. (See Specification, para. [0019]).

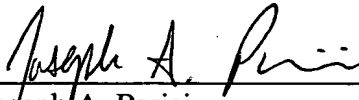
In addition, the claimed invention provides that the collected usage data includes *data associated with one or more usage events indicative of the manner in which the digital content is consumed* at the first device. Digital content may be consumed in many different manners. For example, usage events regarding the consumption of digital content may include events such as PLAY (i.e. BEGIN, PAUSE, RESUME, COMPLETE, AND CANCEL), etc. (See Specification, para. [0033]). Table 1 on page 12 of the Specification provides an exemplary listing of different manners of consuming digital content. Accordingly, the usage data collected is associated with usage events, such as BEGIN PLAY or CANCEL PLAY, which are indicative of the manner in which the digital content is consumed.

There is no suggestion whatsoever in Suzuki that the goods may include *digital content*, that *consumption of digital content* may be monitored, or that the database may include *usage data* that includes *data associated with one or more usage events indicative of the manner in which the digital content is consumed at the first device* as is recited in claims 1, 8, and 14. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Suzuki fails to teach, disclose, or suggest each and every feature of the invention as recited in independent claims 1, 8, and 14 and dependent claims 2-7, 9-13, and 15-19. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of Suzuki be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of all of the foregoing, Applicants submit that this case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 24, 2005



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